

## ATTITUDE

(διάνοια)

“Pastor Chris, I’ve heard you say that we need to develop a positive attitude, but where is that in the Bible? This principle is accentuated in both the Old and New Testaments. Ephesians 4:23 states, **“Your attitudes and thoughts must all be constantly changing for the better”** (Living Bible). Attitudes are developed through a ‘thought’ process! Proverbs 23:7 says, **“As a man thinks in his heart so is he.”** Your thoughts will determine your attitude, your attitude will affect your actions, and your actions will define your character. Successes and defeats are, in large part, attributed to your thinking. When you fill your mind with unbelief and dwell on being a failure, this negative attitude will produce defeat. But a “faith-filled” attitude will cause you to succeed. *Attitude is everything!* The Bible and psychology agree that our happiness and achievements aren’t altogether determined by our circumstances, but rather, how we face our circumstances. Satan knows this and that it is why his primary target of attack is the mind. Satan will try to destroy you by creating fear, pessimism, self-pity, hatred, unforgiveness, and unresolved anger. But the Lord has given you a strategy; **“Give no place to the devil.”** Why? Because this sort of thinking will destroy you! It takes right thinking to produce right behaviour. To a great extent, what you are today is a product of yesterday’s thinking. Therefore, your tomorrow is dependent on your thoughts of today.

If you were to think of your life in terms of a painting, what do you envisage? Is the picture worth painting? Whether you realize it or not, your mind is an artist that paints you into whatever image you allow it to perceive. John Milton said, “The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a heaven of hell, or a hell of heaven.” And that’s true! William James said: “The greatest discovery of my generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitude.” Winston Churchill said, “Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference.” Let me reiterate... Guard your thoughts! Don’t allow yourself to become disillusioned or to get immersed in pessimism. Adopt a positive attitude by saturating your mind with faith-filled thoughts. Yes, it takes more to discipline your thinking and dwell on faith-filled thoughts than to give up and accept defeat. But you CAN do it! If you ask the Holy Spirit for help, He will bring to your remembrance every positive thought that is necessary to bring about the victory. Let me ask you, “How are you thinking right now?” Do you have the “mind of Christ” for the situation you are in? Or have you let the devil’s lies trick you into thoughts of defeat? Confessing your identity in Christ, and who the Bible says you are, will change your mind-set and affect your entire future. So start right now with thoughts of victory and enjoy a liberty that you’ve never known before.

***You have made them a kingdom (royal race) and priests to our God, and they shall rule and reign [as kings] over the earth!*** – Revelation 5:10 AMP